

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a computer system communicably coupled to a wireless local area network, the computer system automatically obtaining, storing, and sending digital media content via a wireless local area network access point to an automotive storage and playback device when the automotive storage and playback device includes a wireless transceiver that is within range of the wireless local area network, the computer system, being located remotely from an automobile coupled to the automotive storage and playback device, automatically obtaining at least a portion of the digital media content at scheduled times from one or more digital media content servers via a wide area network; based on user defined preferences directly input into the computer system by a user, while the wireless local area network is not within range of the wireless transceiver of the automotive storage and playback device.

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the computer system comprises a system control application to send the digital media content automatically to the automotive storage and playback device in response to control firmware on the automotive storage and playback device broadcasting a discovery message to the system control application and wherein the automotive storage and playback device broadcasts the discovery message only; when the automobile coupled to the automotive storage and playback device is turned off.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 wherein the computer system attempts to sends the digital media content to the automotive storage and playback device periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 wherein the computer system is operable to send the digital media content to the automotive storage and playback device in response to a user action.

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14 wherein the computer system comprises: a system control application to manage and control the transfer of the digital media content to the automotive storage and playback device; and a user interface by which the user defined preferences are directly input into the computer system by the user.

19. (Currently Amended) A system for transferring digital content to an automobile comprising:

an automotive storage and playback device for coupling to the automobile, the automotive storage and playback device including a first wireless transceiver to automatically receive digital media content via a wireless local area network, the automotive storage and playback device coupled to an output device in the automobile that is capable of playing the digital media content; and

a computer system coupled to the wireless local area network and remotely located with respect to the automobile to which the automotive storage and playback device is coupled, the computer system automatically obtaining, storing, and sending the digital media content via the wireless local area network to the automotive storage and playback device

when the automotive storage and playback device includes a wireless transceiver that is within range of the wireless local area network, with the computer system obtaining at least a portion of the digital media content at scheduled times from one or more digital content servers via a wide area network, based on user defined preferences directly input into the computer system by a user, while the wireless local area network is not within range of the wireless transceiver of the automotive storage and playback device.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein control firmware on the automotive storage and playback device broadcasts a discovery message periodically and automatically for the purpose of synchronizing digital media content from a system control application on the computer system when the automobile is turned off.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the automotive storage and playback device receives the digital media content periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the automotive storage and playback device receives the digital media content in response to a user action at the computer system.

23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19 wherein the computer system comprises: a system control application to manage and control the transfer of the digital media content to the automotive storage and playback device; and a user interface by which the user defined preferences are directly input into the computer system by the user.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 further comprising a storage and datalink unit coupled with the first wireless transceiver to receive the digital media content from the first wireless transceiver and convert the digital content into at least binary data.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24 further comprising a head unit coupled to the storage and data link unit via at least one cable.

26. (Original) The system of claim 25 wherein the head unit comprises:

- a stereo sound processor;
- an audio mixer coupled with the stereo sound processor;
- a pre-amplifier coupled with the audio mixer;
- an amplifier coupled with the pre-amplifier;
- a tuner coupled to an antennae attached to the automobile; and
- a user interface.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26 wherein the head unit further comprises:

- a compact disc drive coupled with the stereo sound processor; and
- an audiocassette drive coupled with the stereo sound processor.

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the digital media content includes at least one of a music file, a text file, an image file, a video file, and an interactive multimedia file.

29. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the wide area network is Internet.

30. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a battery.
31. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a temperature-based control system.
32. (Original) The system of claim 24 wherein the storage and datalink unit includes a vibration dampening system.
33. (Original) The system of claim 32 wherein the vibration dampening system includes two elastomeric suspension caps.
34. (Currently Amended) A method of transferring digital media content to an automotive storage and playback device coupled to an automobile comprising:
 - communicably coupling the automotive storage and playback device to a local area network when the automotive storage and playback device is within range of a wireless local area network; and
 - receiving at least a portion of the digital media content automatically from a ~~remote computer system located remotely from a vehicle coupled to the automotive storage and playback device via the wireless local area network, based on user defined preferences input in the computer system, while the wireless local area network is not within range of the wireless transceiver of the automotive storage and playback device~~, wherein the digital media content was automatically obtained by the remote computer system from ~~one or more digital content servers via a wide area network at scheduled times based upon user defined preferences directly input into the computer system by a user while the wireless local area~~

~~network is not within range of a wireless transceiver of the automotive storage and playback device.~~

35. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein receiving digital media content includes control firmware broadcasting a discovery message periodically and automatically when the automobile is turned off for the purpose of synchronizing digital media content with a system control application on the computer system.
36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein receiving digital media content includes receiving the digital media content periodically at times designated according to the user defined preferences input into the computer system.
37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34, wherein receiving digital media content includes receiving at least a portion of the digital media content in response to a user action.
38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 further comprising decompressing and converting the digital media content into at least binary data.
39. (Original) The method of claim 38 further comprising transferring the converted content to an output device in the automobile.
40. (Original) The method of claim 39 further comprising playing the converted content on the output device.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 34 wherein the digital media content includes at least one of a music file, a text file, an image file, a video file, and an interactive multimedia file.

42 - 46. (Canceled)